

The Law has Already Been Fulfilled!

**Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.
Matthew 5:17 (KJV)** 



Something all Christians need to understand is that Jesus could not have just died for us. First He had to live for us. What do I mean by that? Scripture tells us that the Law will never pass away. So, before He could die for us, Christ first had to live a perfect life by perfectly keeping the Law. In doing so He fulfilled the Law. When He cried “It is finished!” from the cross it was the Law that He finished and fulfilled completely.

**But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.
John 15:25 (KJV)** 

You see, what Christ did for us is two-fold. He not only kept the Law perfectly, but then He died as if He were the vilest of sinners. One of the things that’s so compelling to me about the gospel is that He was hated without cause. As someone who has often been falsely accused of things in my life I cannot fathom the love He had for me that He would willingly be falsely accused for the sins I am guilty of, and indeed the sins of the whole world (**1 John 2:2 KJV** ).

Rarely preached these days is the fact that Jesus kept the Law perfectly because we couldn’t. This is the direct cause that so many are caught up in false Hebrew Roots teachings. They have never been taught that we are dead to the Law through the fact that first Jesus fulfilled (finished) the Law for us, then went on to pay the penalty for transgression of the Law for us, as if He Himself was guilty. He did it in our place. Once we completely understand that fact we can plainly see that to even attempt to keep Old Testament Law is to spit on the cross of Christ!

So is the Law dead? No, it is not. Listen very carefully to what I am about to say, because there must be no confusion in your minds. I bind demons of confusion in the name of Jesus right now. The Law is not dead, however we who are under grace are dead to the Law.

**Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Romans 6:8-11 (KJV)** 

**Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)** 

What does it precisely mean that we are dead to the Law? Exactly what it says! Imagine there was a trial tomorrow morning in a courtroom. “Where is the defendant?” the judge would say, to which the lawyer would reply “The defendant is dead sir!” to which the judge would say “Case dismissed!” You cannot put a dead man on trial, and convict him in absentia because of what’s called **Habeus Corpus**. So you see, through both Christ’s perfect keeping of the Law and His terrible sacrifice on the cross for us we are reckoned dead and therefore God’s case against us is dismissed. Glory to God!

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:8-10 (KJV) 

Keep in mind that we were not rendered innocent, but an innocent man was substituted in our place and paid the penalty for us. Indeed, we are all still sinners in the sense that we still have a sin nature and subsequently sin on occasion (**Romans 7:14-25 KJV** ). Scripture plainly tells us that whoever claims they have no sin is a liar and the truth is not in them.

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. (**Romans 6:14-15 KJV** )

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Romans 6:14-15 (KJV) 

This passage often confuses people into thinking that they must keep Old Testament Law after all because at first glance it seems to contradict itself. But you see, once we have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit the Law has been written into our hearts. What does that mean exactly?

Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.
2 Corinthians 3:3 (KJV) 

For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:
Romans 2:14 (KJV) 

It is the Holy Spirit living in us that tells us murder is wrong, but He does not tell us to keep the Sabbath. Indeed, every day of the week is to be kept holy when our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit (**Colossians 2:16**  KJV). He also tells us that adultery is wrong, but He does not tell us to abstain from meats. Indeed, scripture tells us that teaching others to abstain from meat is the doctrine of devils (**1 Timothy 4:3 KJV** ). Scripture makes it plain that the Torah is impossible to keep perfectly. In fact, if it were possible for even one mortal being to keep it, then Christ both kept the Law and died for our sins needlessly.

The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.
Luke 16:16 (KJV) 

God's Word makes it quite clear that we are no longer under the law, but under grace (**Romans 6:14 KJV** ) , so why are we admonished to keep the Law throughout the New Testament?

Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.
2 Corinthians 3:3 (KJV) 

The answer is simple. The Law that was once in ink (Torah) and tables of stone (The 10 commandments) is now written in our hearts by the presence of the Holy Spirit. But when we carefully study passages like Matthew 5 we can plainly see that the Law Christ preached is markedly different than that contained in the Old Testament.

Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Matthew 5:27-28 (KJV) 

Matthew 5 gives us several different examples of how Christ changed the Law. Changed it? Yes! You see, the Law said don't commit adultery. But the Law now in our hearts goes further to say that to even look at a woman with lust is a sin! Under the Law you could ogle a woman with filthy thoughts in your heart all day, as long as you didn't act on it. The Law allowed for sin in the heart to remain hidden from men, so they could keep the letter of the Law, but not the spirit of it.

The Pharisees were especially skilled at this, which is why scripture tells us that our righteousness must be greater than theirs (**Matthew 5:20  KJV**). Under grace, they could no longer operate in their flesh seeming to be pious on the surface but corrupt in their hearts. That is what Christ was expressing when He condemned them for cleaning the outside of the cup while leaving the inside filthy (**Matthew 23:25-26 KJV **). With the Law written in our hearts the Holy Spirit now convicts us whenever we sin. We don't need a book to tell us we are sinning, we sense it, at least as long as the Holy Spirit is within us. He can be grieved, and will leave us if we continue to live in unrepentant sin.

But for followers of the false Hebrew Roots doctrine there simply is no Holy Spirit conviction, because they do not have Him in their hearts! Without the guidance of the Spirit these souls are like ships without rudders being tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine. Theirs is a perilous state, because like the Laodicean church they don't even sense that they are not right with God! They think to themselves if we can only follow the Law better we will have peace, but they never do.

